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SATURDAY, AUGUST 19, 1876.]

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

SELECTIONS
FROM THE
VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS
PUBLISHED IN THE PANJAB,
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES,
OUDH, AND CENTRAL PROVINCES,

Received up to 19th August, 1876.

POLITICAL.

GENERAL.

The *Oudh Akhbar* of 13th August, in a communicated article, refers to the honourable treatment which Sir Salar Jung received from Englishmen at home, and expresses its astonishment at the sudden change which takes place in their behaviour as soon as they set foot on the Indian soil. Here in this country they hold natives in no greater estimation than reptiles and worms.

The *Nur-ul-Absar* of the 15th August writes that Mr. Justice Turner lately took occasion to address a few salutary remarks to an Allahabad jury on the subject of not allowing their national prejudices to affect their verdict. He further told them that they were not right in rejecting the whole evidence of witnesses as untrue, because of any petty disagreements in their statements.

It may be inferred from the above observations, says the editor, that Mr. Turner blamed the jurors for their unjust verdict in the case of Mr. Fuller (the writer apparently means Private McGrath), but that he fell short of the proper mark,

inasmuch as he did not share the views of Lord Lytton in their integrity.

The *Ashraf-ul-Akhbār* of 11th August says that the good opinion which the native public originally had of the qualities and virtues of Englishmen has considerably changed for the worse. They were formerly noted for their gravity, firmness of mind, and enlightenment; but now complaints are heard in every quarter of their violence, cruelty, pride, and rashness. This has been the inevitable consequence of the increase of crime and sin in the ruling nation. Instances of suicide, adultery, deceit, or forgery, murder, &c., are of every-day occurrence, and, being very heinous in their nature, are a great stigma on the whole nation. The writer then attempts to corroborate his observations by illustrations. Some of them may be briefly alluded to, as below :—

A magistrate placed a shoe on the head of a mukhtār at Allahabad. The ears of a pleader were pulled by orders of another magistrate. The magistrate of Chittagong, as president of the district municipal committee, placed a municipal commissioner in custody.

Private McGrath shot three natives at Sháhjahánpur. Mr. Fuller kicked and cuffed his syce to death. An artillery-man killed a pankah-coolie at Sagar.

The son of the late Lord Mayo has been charged with committing adultery by force. The Duchess of Edinburgh, a daughter of the Czar of Russia, has applied for a divorce from her husband. An English doctor took a large sum of money from a Government treasury on the authority of a forged letter.

The *Mufa-i-Hind* of 16th August, quoting the *Safir-i-Madras*, writes that the English Government attributes the rebellion of Servia against Turkey to the instigation of Russia. Russians are looking forward with impatience for the advent of winter, when they intend to enter the field against the Turks. Russia is also steadily pushing on military preparations,

and is likely to send about one hundred thousand forces at once, on the commencement of Russian hostilities, to the assistance of the Turks.

The *Rohilkhand Akhbār* of 12th August, learning that the superintendent of police at Gházipur beat his servant to death, waits with interest to see how this case will be disposed of. Lord Lytton has distinctly advocated the infliction of strict punishment upon Englishmen in his minute on the Fuller case, in order to teach them to refrain from their murderous acts. It is highly to be regretted that those very men who are appointed to see that the law is properly enforced are the first to break it.

The *Nizam-ul Akhbār* of the 7th August complains of the partiality exhibited by Government in every respect towards Europeans. The natives must acquire a great proficiency in the English language before they can be appointed to high office; but Englishmen, whose acquaintance with the vernaculars is infinitely small, are at once appointed assistant or joint magistrates. The natural consequence of this is that these men, owing to their ignorance of the language of the people and their customs and manners, sometimes cannot understand at all the cases that come up before them for decision, and therefore it is not at all surprising if they are found murdering justice instead of justly dispensing it.

Turning to the English Parliament, it will be observed that there are no native members to represent the dumb millions of India. Its members, seeing India through the green spectacles of the affluent circumstances of their own country, recommend the imposition of taxes which they never would have done if they had a true insight into the state of India. They are unaware that the riches of India have been, and are being, drained off to England.

It is also an act of injustice on the part of Government to qualify natives, by giving them a high English education,

for officers of trust and responsibility, and afterwards to build-
hold these offices from them.

The *Samaya Vinod* of 15th August, in a communicated
article, comments on the unjust lenity shown in punishing
Europeans for killing natives. Mr. Fuller received no heavier
punishment than a fine of Rs. 30 for putting an end to the
life of his syce by blows. The artillery-man who has
recently killed his punkah-coolie at Sagar need not entertain
any apprehensions about his life, because the medical evidence
has, as usual, attributed the coolie's death to rupture of the
diseased spleen.

The enlargement of the spleen, and the *post-mortem*
examination which readily discovers it, have placed the
lives of all Europeans who cause the deaths of natives by
blows out of all jeopardy, just as verdicts of accident
(in shooting) and insanity always protect those Europeans
who, unwilling to hurt their hands, have recourse to weapons
to kill natives. The writer, after commenting sarcastically on
the great weight that attaches to medical evidence which
secured the deposition of the ex-Gaekwar from the guddi,
and alluding to the fact that when a native kills a native no
pretext whatever can extenuate his crime, observes that since
the establishment of the British rule in this country no
European has ever been convicted of culpable homicide for
killing a native. Whatever may be the cause which has
hitherto allowed Englishmen to perpetrate their murderous
deeds with practical impunity, it is certain that it greatly
stains the fame of English justice, inasmuch as there is no
provision in the law which might exempt Europeans from the
punishment of hanging, if natives are killed by them.

All things considered, Government would do well to enact
a law expressly laying down that no Englishman will ever be
punished with loss of life if he causes the death of a native.
Such a law will set the minds of the native population at
rest, and the warm and loud complaints that are at present

heard impeaching English justice will cease. The existing law will be changed once for all. Moreover there is nothing unjust in such a law. When the power and influence of Brahmins were in the ascendant their persons were held inviolable; no crime was heinous enough to condemn them to the gallows. In the same way the Sayyids and Pírzadas are held in great veneration among the Musalmans.

The same privilege may be extended to Englishmen, especially in India, where the death of a native may be justly regarded as a happy deliverance from his miserable and wretched condition.

CABUL AND CENTRAL ASIA.

The *Kohi Núr* of 12th August, in its columns of summary of news, reports that the Akhwand of Swat has deputed a disciple of his to dissuade the Amír of Cabul from attacking the Bajori tribe, who are his disciples. He has further urged upon the Amír the inadvisability of crippling the power of Afghánistán by civil wars, when it will probably, ere long, have to cope with a powerful foreign enemy.

A Simla correspondent of the *Lohi-Mahfúz* of the 11th August, quoting a recent communication made by some one on the frontier to the Commander-in-chief as his authority, writes that a Russian ambassador lately came to the Amír of Cabul and made several tenders on behalf of the Czar. The Amír should enter into a friendly treaty with the Russian emperor; he should agree to the permanent residence of a Russian consul in Cabul; and he should also expel the British consul accredited to his court from his dominions. Moreover he should allow a free passage to Russian forces through his territories. The Amír is said to have ostensibly declined these proposals; but it is not known for certain if he has entered into any secret engagements.

The correspondent further reports that a bloody battle is likely to ensue between the Amír of Kashgarh and the Russians on the confines of Yarkand.

The *Lawrence Gazette* of 15th August remarks that the Amír of Cabul stands at present in a very critical position. The emperor of Russia requested him to consent to the residence of his agent at Cabul, and the Government of India also made some proposals to increase their influence at his court; but political considerations induced the Amír not to comply with the requests of either. The Amír is greatly indebted to the Government of India, inasmuch as the latter presented him once with a large quantity of arms, and give him annually the immense sum of 24 lakhs of rupees. It is this pecuniary aid which enables him to pay his forces regularly, and thus peace and order are maintained in his dominions. At the same time it is to his own interest that the English should strengthen their position in Cabul, because their presence would never fail to check the Russians from extending their encroachments.

But as the Afghánis have not a good head for political matters, it is better that the Viceroy himself should see the Amír at Pesháwar, and there impress upon him the good object of his proposals. The coming of the Amír to India will have a good effect on the refractory Afridis also; the latter, thinking that they were going to be attacked by Indian forces from one side and those of the Amír from the other, would give up their hostilities and hasten to seek peace with the Government.

NATIVE STATES.

The *Rahbar-i-Hind* of 15th August, referring to the contemplated appointment by the Government of India of a European assistant to Sir T. Madho Rao in Baroda, admits the propriety of this measure, inasmuch as the duties of Sir T. Madho Rao are very onerous and complicated, but objects to the nomination of a European. Has Heaven not created India for Hindustanis, or has nature not endowed them with sufficient ability to reap good from their own country?

There is very little doubt that a pre-conceived plan underlies the appointment of a European assistant. If only the list of candidates for service in Baroda be consulted, it would at once appear that there is no dearth of men able to fill the highest offices of state among natives. As no officer has yet been chosen for the post, it is not yet too late for Government to direct its attention in this direction.

The same paper deplores the extravagance of native chiefs on the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to India, which compels them now to devise various impolitic measures in order to replenish their coffers. A Mahratta chief has reduced the state expenditure to half of its former amount. Another Rájá is thinking of abolishing the courts of law, and has also determined not to give more than ten months' pay to public servants in a year; and so on. The editor enjoins strict economy upon native chiefs, and warns them from the disastrous consequences of extravagance.

The *Ashraf-ul-Akhbár*, dated 11th August, in a communicated article, complains of the prevalence of theft in the Rámpur state. The pay of the police is said to be in arrears for several months. The Nawab is very severely condemned for the luxury and effeminacy in which he passes his days and nights.

A correspondent of the *Safir-i-Hind* of 15th August attributes the corruption and oppression at present prevalent in the Jeypur state to the bad administration of Fateh Singh, the prime minister.

ADMINISTRATIVE (GENERAL).

The *Rahbar-i-Hind* of 15th August writes that the courts of law in the North-Western Provinces are at present flooded by pleaders who pass every year by hundreds at the annual examination held at Allahabad. It is not unusual to come across among these upstarts men whose acquaintance with the law (to say nothing of their general incapacity) is

remarkably small, and who are not above eighteen or nineteen years of age. Thus the legal profession, once so honourable, is falling fast into contempt. This unsatisfactory state of things is mainly due to the fact that candidates are not examined *videlicet*. The written examination admits of various unfair tricks.

As remedies against these evils, the editor recommends the following measures to the consideration of Government :—

The pleaders of the North-Western Provinces should be allowed to practise at the bar in the Panjáb and Oudh, and the Government of the Panjáb should recruit its subordinate judicial service from among them, as they are more competent than the munsifs of that province. The minimum age of candidates should be fixed at 25 years, and their general ability should be strictly tested by the district magistrate or judge before recommending them for the examination. Several measures are also noticed to preclude all possibility of unfair means on the part of examinees at the time of examination.

The *Mehar Darakshan* of 11th August complains of the indifference of public officers in native states, and even in British territories, to the poor and helpless who cannot have their grievances redressed and justice dispensed to them.

The *Oudh Akhbar* of 16th idem writes that the Home Government has undoubtedly at heart the material, mental, and moral improvement of India. It earnestly wishes to see mutual sympathy permanently established between the native populations and their foreign rulers. It is equally desirous to introduce natives in higher offices of trust and responsibility in the political and judicial departments, according to their merits; but it is to be deeply regretted that the highest English officials in India have with scrupulous care and caution kept the Home Government entirely in the dark with respect to their ability and talents. They are heartily

adverse to the appointment of natives to high office, which has hitherto been the exclusive monopoly of their own countrymen. It may be further added that Europeans are wont to kill their native subjects with practical impunity. Thus all these things have conspired to provoke a general discontent among the people. The Marquis of Salisbury himself lately admitted the want of sympathetic feelings existing between the Anglo-Indians and natives at the Cooper's Hill College, and candidly acknowledged the expediency of conferring covenanted appointments upon the latter also. His speech has been made the text for warm and animated discussion by the Anglo-Indian Press. The *Pioneer* has not hesitated to take the Indian minister at home to task for his ignorance of Indian affairs. The Anglo-Indian Press has made it a rule to extol and give credit to an Englishman at home for his knowledge of the affairs of India if he raises his voice against the country, and to denounce the very same man for his ignorance if he happens to have a good word for it.

In conclusion, the writer observes that Englishmen should now, giving up all prejudices and interested motives, nominate competent natives to higher judicial posts, the duties of which they are pre-eminently fitted to discharge. A native, by the very accident of his birth, knows much more of the country and its people than a European.

The same paper of the 13th August mentions the constitution of a committee by the Government of India to review the cases in which natives were murdered by Europeans and the plea of previous existence of disease in the deceased urged in behalf of the murderers, and to submit a full report upon them. Looking to the frequency of deaths of native menial servants, occasioned by the blows of their European masters, it is advisable, adds the editor, that the Government should pass an order directing Europeans to require medical certificates from the former to the effect that they have no disease of the stomach, enlargement of the spleen, &c.; as a further

precaution, measures should also be taken to deter Europeans from cruel beating, which so often leads to death.

The *Nair-ul-Absār* of 15th August observes that the vigorous policy which Lord Salisbury has recommended to the Government of India, as regards the nomination of natives to high office, reflects great credit upon his lordship. The Secretary of State has directed the Indian Government that if any Englishman be unwilling to serve under a native superior, having no better excuse to plead than that of his nationality, no heed should be paid to his objection, and he should be reported to the Home Government for insubordination.

The *Rafa-i-Am* of the 8th August, in an article headed "The effect of a good administration of justice," comments on the administration of British rule in India. The good government of a country should necessarily have the effect of gaining popularity with the people and producing a general contentment and satisfaction among them, otherwise the government cannot be called a good and just government. The administration of justice in a country cannot be judged by the number of acts and regulations, or of pleaders and judges. In former times, when Hindu Rájás possessed supremacy in India, justice was administered according to only one code of laws, viz., the Institutes of Menu; but the people were quite satisfied with the Government. Now, during the British rule, although the number of laws has considerably increased, the people are not found to be heartily grateful to Government. This seeming anomaly can only be accounted for on the ground that, under the present régime, litigants are put to great expense and inconvenience before they can have justice done them. All that the Government cares for is the income it derives from court fees, fines, &c.

The editor then proceeds to censure the Government for not recognising the full rights of its native subjects. It has always at heart the benefit and prosperity of its own

countrymen. This mode of double-dealing is by no means in accordance with strict justice; it in reality murders justice.

EDUCATIONAL.

The *Rahbar-i-Hind* of 15th August, in its correspondence columns, notices an illegal proceeding of the district inspector of schools, Amritsar. He, finding Ghulám Kadir, the teacher of the Jalálabad school, unfit for his present post, secured an order from the Deputy Commissioner for his transfer to the Butálá school; but afterwards, through the intervention of his own muharrir (Pír Baksh) and the teacher's father, and two ziladars, allowed the teacher to continue in his present appointment.

PRESS.

The *Rahbar-i-Hind* of the 12th August condemns the objectionable tone assumed by the unfledged *Panjáb Courier*, Lahore, which is calculated to widen the gulf of disunion between the European and native populations. The *Panjáb Courier*, dated 2nd idem, in the course of an article remarks that a worshipper of Satan (Shiva) or a follower of the false prophet (Muhammad) is not better than a Native Christian and Eurasian. It is now for the Government to judge how far remarks like the above might excite the native mind. It is too notorious to require any comment what dire consequences followed from the religious zeal which was inflamed by the report of greased cartridges in 1857. Does the editor of the *Panjáb Courier* earnestly wish to see once more the gloomy days of the mutiny? He deserves to be as strictly punished as Hindus and Musalmans were in the beginning of the British rule. It is the paramount duty of the Anglo-Indian Press to strengthen the feeling of love and friendship between the governor and the governed, and not to mischievously seek to extinguish it altogether.

If the native journalists were to speak in similar disparaging terms of Christians, the latter would be at once ready to measure strength with them.

The moral conduct of Native Christians and Eurasians in India is far from being satisfactory. They cannot be counted among the loyal subjects of the Government. One who has no ambition to gain honour and dignity will not like to see another honoured. Most of the Native Christians and Eurasians belong to the low and mean classes of the community, and have no superiority over the Hindus and Musalmans in morals or other respects.

LOCAL AND MISCELLANEOUS.

The *Oudh Akhbār* of 16th August, in reference to the untoward incident at Agra, in which a criminal, on being sentenced to life-imprisonment, wickedly cast a shoe at the Judge, suggests that in future no criminals should be permitted to enter the courts of justice with their shoes on, and that a very strict watch should be kept upon them during the time of trial.

LIST OF PAPERS EXAMINED.

NAME.			DATE.	
			1876.	
Akal Prakash,	...	...	June.	...
Mukhzan-ul-Ulum,	...	...	August	1st
Nafa-ul-Azim,	...	...	"	5th
Tohfah-i-Kashmir,	...	...	"	7th
Najm-ul-Akhbar,	...	...	"	7th
Marwar Gazette,	...	...	"	7th
Sadiq-ul-Akhbar,	...	...	"	7th
Rafah-i-Am, ...	...	...	"	8th
Rohilkhand Akhbar,	...	...	"	9th
Malwa Akhbar,	...	...	"	9th
Akhbar-i-'Alam,	...	...	"	10th
Benares Akhbar,	...	...	"	10th
Syad-ul-Akhbar,	...	...	"	10th
Nur-i-Afshan,	...	...	"	10th
Aligarh Institute Gazette,	...	...	"	11th
Nasir-ul-Akhbar,	...	...	"	11th
Nasir-ul-Islam,	...	...	"	11th
Lauh-i-Mahfaz,	...	...	"	11th
Social Science Congress Gazette,	...	...	"	11th
Anjuman-i-Panjab,	...	...	"	11th
Ashraf-ul-Akhbar,	...	...	"	11th
Anand Lahari,	...	...	"	11th
Adib-i-'Alam,	...	...	"	11th
Meerut Gazette,	...	...	"	12th
Koh-i-Nur, ...	...	...	"	12th
Anjuman-i-Hind,	...	...	"	12th
Urdu Akhbar,	...	...	"	12th
Rohilkhand Akhbar,	...	...	"	12th
Tohfah-i-Kashmir,	...	...	"	12th
Urdu Akhbar (Akola),	...	...	"	12th
Khair Khwah-i-Hindustan,	...	...	"	12th
Vakil-i-Hindustan,	...	...	"	12th
Rahbar-i-Hind,	...	...	"	12th
Muir Gazette,	...	...	"	12th
Nur-ul-Anwar,	...	...	"	12th
Nur-ul-Afaq, ...	...	...	"	12th
Mahar-i-Durukhsan,	...	...	"	13th
Lamah-i-Nur,	...	...	"	13th
Oudh Akhbar,	...	...	"	13th
Akmal-ul-Akhbar,	...	...	"	13th
Gwalior Gazette,	...	...	"	13th
Kavi Vachan Sudha,	...	...	"	14th
Lytton Gazette,	...	...	"	14th
Sadiq-ul-Akhbar,	...	...	"	14th
Munoo-ul-Ahkan,	...	...	"	14th
Karnamah,	...	...	"	14th
Dabdaba-i-Sikandari	...	...	"	14th
Mutlaya-Nur,	...	...	"	15th
Samaya Vinod,	...	...	"	15th
Lawrence Gazette,	...	...	"	15th

LIST OF PAPERS EXAMINED.

STALL	NAME.	DATE.
		1876.
	Safr-i-Hind, ...	August 15th
	Nasir-ul-Iman,	" 15th
	Nasir-ul-Absar,	" 15th
	Shala-i-Tar, ...	" 15th
	Akhbar Akhbar,	" 15th
	Kasi Patrika,	" 15th
	Rahbar-i-Hind,	" 15th
	Anjuman-i-Akhbar,	" 15th
	Shams-ul-Akhbar,	" 15th
	Oudh Akhbar,	" 15th
	Jahad-i-Tar,	" 15th
	Najm-ul-Akhbar,	" 15th
	Akhbar-i-Am, ..	" 15th
	Nayar-i-Azam,	" 15th
	Khair Khwah-i-Hind,	" 15th
	Musid-i-Hind,	" 15th
	Taj-ul-Akhbar,	" 15th
	Nasir-i-Afshan,	" 15th
	Oudh Akhbar,	" 15th

PRIYA DKS,

Offg. Govt. Reporter, Vernacular Press, Upper India.